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PRO-IRAQI FATAH MOURNS DEATH OF YASIN MURDER SUSPECT

JN012058Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The Palestinian national liberation movement--Fatah-the Revolutionary Council--mourns on behalf of the Palestinian and Arab masses one of its prominent cadres, martyr struggler Hamzah Ibrahim, who was martyred last Saturday in a Kuwaiti prison as a result of severe and continued torture. Following is the text of the statement of mourning:

The Palestinian national liberation movement--Fatah-the Revolutionary Council--announces to our Palestinian and Arab masses the death of one of its prominent cadres, martyr struggler Hamzah Ibrahim, who was martyred last Saturday as a result of severe and continued torture in a Kuwaiti prison. The Kuwaiti authorities arrested him along with others of our Palestinian Arab people in Kuwait following the assassination of 'Ali Nasir Yasin.

Although Fatah-the Revolutionary Council sent a memo to the Kuwait authorities in which it clearly pointed out the real killers and explained the dimensions and aims of the campaign of defamation and deception launched by the reactionary Palestinian gang under Yasir 'Arafat against our movement, and in which it stressed its complete readiness to give unequivocal evidence showing that members of the 'Arafat leadership are behind the crime, these authorities abstained from taking any step to uncover the perpetrators or reveal the side that was behind them. Instead, these authorities insisted on continuing its arrests of sons of our people, subjecting them to the ugliest methods of torture and terrorism inside prisons, where the torture is directed by a committee formed of Yasir 'Arafat's security forces and the Kuwaiti political security forces headed by Shaykh Mish'il al-Ahmad as-Sabah. Under the supervision of that committee, the brother struggler Hamzah Ibrahim was tortured to death, and the marks of severe torture are obvious on his body.

This new and deliberate crime is not separate from the bloody liquidation campaign undertaken by the Palestinian reaction against the revolutionary forces in Fatah and the Palestinian arena. A serious element of this crime is the participation of organs of the Kuwaiti authority side by side with the reactionary Palestinian forces in hostility to the revolutionary forces inside Fatah and their getting directly involved in the struggle, despite the availability of evidence regarding the hands which carried out the assassination of 'Ali Yasin and the forces behind these hands.

The Kuwaiti authorities were forced to stop investigation of the case for fear of scandal that would first of all affect members of Yasir 'Arafat's leadership, foremost of whom is Khalid al-Hasan. This means that the crime was part of premeditated action by the Kuwaiti political security forces and Yasir 'Arafat's security organ.

The Kuwaiti authorities have long since covered up the arrests that took place and cordoned them off with a belt of secrecy for fear that their participation in this terrorism campaign might be discovered. This clearly means that the Palestinian Arab masses in Kuwait lack the least guarantees that insure their security and lives against falling victim to the cells of terrorism and secret liquidation that are under the supervision of the Palestinian reactionaries in collaboration with the Kuwaiti security authorities.

The Kuwaiti Government, in addition to allowing the participation of one of its organs in the crimes of liquidating the strugglers, shoulders the responsibility for not taking the necessary measures to punish the killers and disclose the ambiquities of the crime before the Arab masses.

Our masses greatly regret to see that certain Arab governments are like the Palestinian reaction in adopting the methods of the Zionist enemy in liquidating the strugglers in their prisons. This is something which should not be overlooked because it [words indistinct] the enemies of the masses to stop at certain limits. This situation in which Kuwait has been turned into a stage for the crimes of the Arab and Palestinian reaction against the masses of our Palestinian Arab people, and into a den for the reactionary clique of Yasir 'Arafat, places before our masses the necessity to struggle and put an end to it. It also places before the forces of the Palestinian and Arab revolution their responsibilities.

The martyr, to whom the hand of Yasir 'Arafat stretched out with treason and assassination in the prisons of the Kuwait authority, is one of the most prominent strugglers of our people. This is a pledge to the martyr that our armed revolution will continue and that the struggle to take the killers to task will continue. Glory and immortality to our innocent martyrs! Revolution until victory!

Dated 1 August 1978

VOP REPORTS FURTHER ON FATAH DELEGATION'S USSR VISIT

JN012000Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] The delegation of the Fatah Central Committee, headed by brother secretary of the Central Committee Abu Mazin, continues its visit to the Soviet Union and its meetings with the CPSU Central Committee members, the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee members and high ranking political personalities. Brother Abu Mazin explained that the policy of the PLO aims at propagating education and culture inside the occupied territories where the Palestinian people, supported by the PLO, have been able to open four universities and institutes--in Nabulus, Gaza, Al-Birah and Bethlehem.

The Fatah Central Committee delegation last week visited Leningrad. The visit lasted for 3 days, during which the delegation toured centers of the heroic city and met with CPSU officials and popular and official organizations. The delegation explained the recent developments in the Palestine question. This morning the delegation started a new round of talk with high-ranking CPSU officials. The talks concentrated on bilateral relations between the Palestinian revolution and the Soviet Union, the situation in the Middle East, especially the Palestinian problem, and other issues. [passage indistinct]

PFLP SPOKESMAN URGES ACTION PROGRAM IN LEBANON

JN020852Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, official spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], has stressed that the Lebanese Nationalist Movement is the only quarter capable of foiling the rightist-Zionist plot. He called on the Palestinian revolution to place all its resources at the disposal of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. In a statement published in Beirut, Abu Sharif said that recent developments have confirmed that the rightists are implementing the Zionists' schemes in Lebanon. It is thus the duty of the Nationalist Movement to draw up an action program to thwart the machinations of the Zionist enemy, he added. Speaking about As-Sadat's treasonous steps, the official PFLP spokesman said that these steps express the stand of the ruling class in Egypt and not As-Sadat's personal mood. He added that the final point conceded by As-Sadat in his capitulatory policy is total submission to the Zionist-U.S. conditions.

SAUDI ARABIA

MOROCCAN COURT ADVISER INTERVIEWED DURING VISIT

LD012131Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1840 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] In a statement to SNA, Ahmed Bensouda, head of the Moroccan Royal Court, stressed that relations between the two countries are firm and strong. "He said that the letter he delivered to His Majesty King Khalid from His Majesty King Hassan II was in connection with the exchange of viewpoints and the evaluation and study of the situation aimed at resolving Arab problems." He said that both countries are in favor of the solidarity of Arab ranks. He paid tribute to the kingdom's efforts in this respect and stressed the importance of Prince Fahd's current visit to several countries. He also stressed the importance to the Arab nation of adhering to Islamic principles and values.

He reviewed the history of the Moroccan Sahara adding "that Morocco believes in dialog and negotiations. He stressed that to Morocco, the Saharan issue is one of completing Morocco's territorial integrity." He paid tribute to the progress made by Saudi Arabia.

YEMEN--PDRY

MILITARY COMMITTEE HOLDS 8TH EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

LD011727Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Armed Forces Higher Military Organizational Committee held its eighth extraordinary session today under the chairmanship of brother Husayn Muhammad Qumatah, member of the Central Committee and the United Political Organization-National Front organizational secretary for the armed forces. The committee will be considering a number of party and political issues relevant to the armed forces and will make decisions about them. A final statement will be issued about the results of the meeting.

YEMEN--YAR

SALIH DECREES DISMISSAL, TRIAL OF 30 YEMENI OFFICERS

JN012105Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Decree No 13 of 1978 of the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces on terminating the services of certain officers, stripping them of their military ranks and referring them to the Supreme State Security Court:

The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces--taking cognizance of the permanent constitution, the constitutional proclamation issued on 6 February 1978 regarding the formation of the Constituent People's Assembly, as amended by the constitutional [word indistinct] of 17 April 1978; the constitutional proclamation of 22 April 1978 on enforcing the decision of the Constituent People's Assembly on defining the duration [words indistinct]; Law No 14 of 1975 on the martial penal law; Law No 15 of 1975 on martial penalties; Law No 16 of 1975 on officers' service in the armed forces; and in view of the crimes committed by the following officers against the security and safety of the state as well as the safety of the citizens; according to the recommendation of the chief of staff; and in accordance with the suggestion of the Officers' Affairs Committee--decrees:

Article 1: The following officers shall be dismissed from service in the armed forces and stripped of their military ranks:

Maj 'Abdallah 'Abd al-'Alim as-Saqqaf, Lt Col Ahmad [rest of name indistinct], Maj 'Abd al-Wali 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah as-Saqqaf, Capt Nu'man Qasim (?Hasan al-'Udayli), Capt 'Abd ar-Rafiq Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman, Capt [name indistinct], 1st Lt 'Ali Muhammad Ghalib, Capt 'Ali Muhammad (?Thabit), Capt 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali, 1st Lt 'Abdu Muhammad (?as-Saqqafi), 1st Lt Ahmad 'Ali at-Tuba'i, 2nd Lt Amin 'Abd ar-Rahman, Maj 'Abd Ahmad 'Aqlan, Maj 'Abd al-Wasi' 'Abdallah Salih, Maj Muhammad [surname indistinct], Maj Muhammad Sa'ih an-Najjar, Maj Muhammad Turghu Sallal, W/O Ahmad Muhammad ar-Rathathi, Serg Sa'id (?at-Tarbi), W/O 'Abd al-Wali Mahjub (?at-Tarjabi), W/O Ahmad (?Luqya) 'Antar, Capt Hashim 'Aqlan, 2nd Lt Ahmad 'Uthman Sa'id, 1st Lt Sadiq Ahmad 'Abdu, 1st Lt Bakkash Yasin, 1st Lt 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-Baqi, 1st Lt Muslih [rest of name indistinct], 1st Lt Ahmad Muhammad Fadil, 2nd Lt Ahmad 'Abdallah (?Subul), and 2nd Lt [name indistinct].

Article 2: The above named shall be referred to the Supreme State Security Court for trial.

Article 3: This decree shall come into force as of its date of issuance and be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE and military bulletins.

Issued at the Republican Palace in San'a' on 26 Sha'ban 1398 Hegira, corresponding to 1 August 1978. [Signed] Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

ECONOMY MINISTER RECEIVES IRANIAN AMBASSADOR

LD011106Y Tehran PARS in English 1005 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 31 July, PANA (PARS News Agency)--The Yemen Arab Republic's minister of economy, Ahmad al-Hamadani, received the Iranian ambassador to the Yemen Arab Republic, Amiroddin Eftekhar, on Sunday, a government source said. The source stated that the Yemeni minister and the Iranian ambassador discussed economic relations between the two countries and means of developing these relations.

FOREIGN MINISTER KAMIL MEETS ATHERTON

NC011250Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil met at noon today with the U.S. Middle East roving ambassador, Alfred Atherton. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, First Under Secretary of the Foreign Ministry Dr Usamah al-Baz and U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts. The discussion of aspects of the Middle East problem will be continued during the meeting. The discussions will also deal with ways to give impetus to the efforts to achieve a settlement of the problem.

Mr Atherton has stated that he will leave Cairo for Jerusalem tomorrow. Atherton also repeated his announcement that Mr Vance will arrive in Jerusalem on Saturday and in Cairo on Monday.

KAMIL MAKES STATEMENT AFTER MEETING ATHERTON

Cairo Radio Report

NC011632Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil stated after this meeting with Alfred Atherton that he had had constructive talks with him, that they had exchanged views and that Atherton had informed him that Cyrus Vance would arrive in Cairo on Monday. The foreign minister said that Egypt welcomes the resumption of talks with the United States as a friend and as a full partner.

Commenting on the statement by the U.S. official spokesman, the foreign minister said that the statement must be put in its true perspective and that Egypt has never said that it is retreating or withdrawing from its peace efforts. He said: We are prepared to go and meet with the Israelis but within a true context, not to waste time but to discuss security arrangements and neighborly relations. He affirmed that the land and sovereignty are not subject to discussion. He said that this was not the stand of Egypt alone but it was an international stance and that since President as-Sadat's initiative, the Egyptian stand has been constructive.

Answering a question about Egypt's stand, the foreign minister said: Egypt's stand is clear and firm. It was proclaimed by President as-Sadat. I can add nothing more to what President as-Sadat said in this respect.

Meanwhile, Mr Atherton said that the meeting was very useful and that the framework of the talks which the U.S. secretary of state will hold was outlined. He said that he would leave Cairo tomorrow for Jerusalem.

MENA Report

NC011640Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1518 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 August--Following his meeting with Atherton, which lasted 135 minutes, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said that the discussions during the meeting were very constructive and were dominated by very good understanding.

In his statement to newsmen, Foreign Minister Kamil said: We always exchange points of view in a friendly and constructive way.

Mr Atherton informed me today that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will come to the region and will visit Egypt on 7 August. Foreign Minister Kamil added: We welcome Mr Vance and we will continue our talks and useful dialog with the United States as a friend and a full partner in the peace process.

Asked his views on the statement made yesterday by U.S. State Department Spokesman Hodding Carter, Foreign Minister Kamil said: I am not happy with this statement. This statement should have been put in a proper perspective. We have never said that we have backed down from our stands and efforts for peace. We are prepared to go and meet with the Israelis but within a true context, not to waste time but to discuss security arrangements and neighborly relations and exclude any talk about anything that infringes on our land and sovereignty.

Foreign Minister Kamil said: This is not only Egypt's stand but an international and universal stand. He added: Since President as-Sadat's initiative in going to Jerusalem, the Egyptian stand has been very constructive. I do not understand the meaning of this statement. Our stand since the initiative has been consistent, clear and constructive.

Regarding the possibilities of a change in the stand, Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil said: Our stand is that proclaimed by President Anwar as-Sadat. I am not prepared to say more than what President as-Sadat has said.

Meanwhile, after the meeting, U.S. roving ambassador Alfred Atherton conveyed his thanks to Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil for giving him an opportunity to meet with Foreign Minister Kamil once again following Atherton's meeting with President Anwar as-Sadat the day before yesterday. Atherton said that complete mutual understanding prevailed during his meeting today with the foreign minister regarding the various important subjects discussed and their details.

Atherton said that the meeting included a useful review of the entire situation and that Vance's visit to the area and his discussions were also discussed. He added that he would leave Cairo Wednesday for Israel to await Cyrus Vance's arrival and to join the delegation accompanying him.

Asked whether the situation was the same, the U.S. roving ambassador said: Yes, the situation is the same, but what is important is Vance's visit to the area and the consultations he will have in the states he will visit. About the possibilities of a change in the Egyptian stand, Atherton said: Let us await Vance's visit and see if there is anything new in the situation.

Atherton leaves Cairo tomorrow at the end of his visit, which began Friday. During his visit he was received by President Anwar as-Sadat and held three meetings with Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil.

ATHERTON CONCLUDES VISIT, LEAVES FOR ISRAEL

NC020943Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0941 GMT 2 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 August--U.S. Middle East roving ambassador Alfred Atherton left Cairo for Israel this morning within the framework of his current tour of some states in the area. He was seen off at the airport by U.S. ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts.

AS-SADAT CHAIRS NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

NC011130Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1118 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 1 August--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today chaired a meeting of the National Security Council. The meeting began at 1230 at the president's rest house in Alexandria.

The meeting was attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, People's Assembly Speaker Sayyid Mar'i, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, ASU Central Committee Secretary General Dr Mustafa Khalil, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of War and War Production Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs Hasan at-Tuhami, Interior Minister Maj Gen Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il and the director of General Intelligence.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil did not attend the meeting because he is in Cairo holding talks with the U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, Alfred Atherton.

Democracy Discussed

NC011904Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The National Security Council held a meeting at 1230 today under the chairmanship of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. Sa'd Zaghlul Nassar, the president's press secretary, stated after the meeting that the council today discussed the subject of building democracy in Egypt.

More on Discussions

NC012233Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpts] Following the National Security Council meeting today, Prime Minister Mamduh Salim said that the meeting began with a comprehensive review by President as-Sadat of the questions related to the sixth objective of the 23 July Revolution, namely the establishment of a sound democratic life.

The president reported the conditions of democracy in the feudal period before the revolution and the corruption of parties. He told the meeting how democracy was just a facade behind which feudalism and capital controlled all the sectors of the working people and deprived them of all say in their interests or rights.

The president also reported on the radical transformation achieved by the revolution through giving the workers and farmers 50 percent representation in the People's Assembly and all popular councils and how the revolution removed all economic and social barriers which constituted the framework and the mode of political, social and economic life. These barriers insured the interests and privileges of the feudalists and exploiters at the expense of the people.

The president then explained that the future state is a new state in every respect and that normal and sound evolution requires the formation of a party which would represent the revolutionary current. This party will lead the majority of the people, who believe in the July and May revolutions within the framework of party and socialist democracy, and will take part in the battles of liberation and construction. This party will be led by the president himself in bringing about complete cohesion within the masses and achieving the national objectives in this decisive phase of national evolution.

The president explained that regarding the formation of the new party, representing the Egyptian revolutionary current, a provisional constituent committee will be formed. Every governorate will be represented on the committee by one or more members of the People's Assembly. The committee will also include some new faces. The committee will present the party platform and submit it for discussion throughout the republic.

The president affirmed that all faithful and sincere people will be given the full chance to participate in building this national edifice and that there will be no discrimination or classification for any reason.

AL-AHRAM ON VANCE'S CRITICISM OF AS-SADAT

NC020703Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Aug 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM comments on a statement attributed to U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance by some news agencies yesterday, in which he described President Anwar as-Sadat's decision not to participate in direct negotiations with Israel in the future until Israel declares its readiness to withdraw from occupied Arab territory as a clear obstacle in the way of peace. AL-AHRAM wonders: Is refusal to hold discussions with Israel an obstacle to peace or is Israel's refusal to withdraw from Arab territory the real and main obstacle?

AL-AHRAM recalls that the United States has spoken more than once, through President Jimmy Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, of the need for an Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory and of the fact that there will be peace with continued Israeli occupation.

'AKHIR SA'AH: ISRAEL PLANNING MAJOR SETTLEMENTS

NC020841Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0740 GMT 2 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 August--The Cairo magazine 'AKHIR SA'AH reports today that Arab circles have received definite information that Israel has drawn up a major plan for settlement in the southern area--in the Negev and on the Sinai border. Work for the implementation of the plan is being carried out secretly. The plan is based on the establishment of small military settlements which will then be gradually turned into civilian settlements.

The magazine says that the Israeli authorities have begun paving the way for the implementation of the plan. They have evicted the Arabs from the Negev desert and have expropriated their land. They have also evacuated the Arabs in northern Sinai from the coastal area, which is on the Rafah-Al-'Arish road and which is being prepared for the establishment of the new port of (Yamit). The secret Israeli plan aims at the establishment of 30 new settlements in the Rafah approaches and in the area of Elat.

It is known that Israel has established seven settlements in Sinai, the biggest of which is Yamit settlement on the Mediterranean coast.

ATH-THAWRAH ON ATTACKS BY PALESTINIAN RIGHTWING

JN0209l7Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 2 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 2 August--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH has warned the rightwing group in the Palestinian resistance against committing any further crimes against Iraq. The paper said those crimes will be dealt with firmly and stressed that Iraq will continue to play its great Arab national role and will not acquiesce to treason.

The paper also said in its editorial today that those crimes categorically show that this rightwing group is closely linked with those quarters which have committed all the crimes against the Palestinian Arab people and their armed revolution, beginning with the renegade Damascus regime, the As-Sadat regime and the reactionary forces, and ending with the imperialist and Zionist circles with which 'Arafat has established secret as well as open ties.

ATH-THAWRAH, which is the central paper of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, described the hostile operations against the Iraqi embassies in London and Paris as cowardly acts which show that the leaders of the Palestinian rightwing have declared their bankruptcy and have decided to make new and serious concessions under the current capitulation settlement.

The paper said that the only explanation for the crimes and deviations of this rightwing group and for its attempts to crush the Palestinian rejectionist forces and harm the party and revolution in Iraq is that this group was told to prove its treasonous trend because these crimes and attacks are taking place at a time when there are increasing efforts to reactivate the settlement and include a Palestinian side in the settlement--a Palestinian side which can openly and clearly declare its hostility to the liberation forces that are committed to armed struggle.

ATH-THAWRAH stressed that the party and the revolution have always been and still are concerned about the unification of the resistance. They have never intended to engage in a sanguinary battle with any Palestinian side out of their concern for the unity of ranks and in deference to the real revolutionaries who shed their blood in the arena.

The paper pointed out that the party and the revolution in Iraq had indicated that they welcome the dialog that this rightwing group itself requested, but this group resorted to procrastination in an attempt to gain time to commit the two crimes at the London and Paris embassies and to continue to strike at the rejectionist groups in Lebanon.

ATH-THAWRAH added: In confronting these deviations and crimes, we will continue to believe in and adhere to our principled Arab national stands and also to feel proud of the great struggle role in this critical phase in the history of our nation.

TWO CHOLERA CASES REPORTED IN SOUTHERN PROVINCE

JN0ll2llY Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 August--The health authorities have discovered two cholera cases in the Dhi Qar Province, southern Iraq. Announcing this today, Health Minister Riyad Ibrahim said that the two persons who contracted the disease are in very good condition. The minister added that WHO has been informed.

HUSAYN RETURNS FROM PRIVATE VISIT TO IRAN

JN3113000Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur returned to Amman this noon after a private visit of several days to Iran. During the visit King Husayn met with His Majesty Emperor of Iran Shahanshah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi and held talks on the latest developments in the area and on strengthening bilateral realtions.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE FAHD ARRIVES IN AMMAN ON BRIEF VISIT

JN0114100Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and first deputy prime minister, arrived in Amman at noon today on a brief visit to Jordan.

His highness is accompanied by His Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyad; His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and a number of officials.

Meets With Husayn

JN0116140Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and first deputy prime minister, met at Al-Hashimiyah Palace this afternoon.

They reviewed the various aspects of the current Arab situation. They also discussed the question of consolidating Arab solidarity. This meeting was broken by a working luncheon attended by the members of the Jordanian and Saudi sides.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, the minister of court, the commander in chief of the armed forces, the minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Jordanian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by His Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyad; His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and the Saudi ambassador in Amman.

Visits General Command

JN0120020Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and His Highness Crown Prince Fahd and the accompanying delegation this evening visited the General Command of the Jordanian Armed Forces. During the visit, they heard a military briefing by Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir and senior officers on the organization, development and armament of the Jordanian Armed Forces. The briefing also dealt with the military situation in the area.

Husayn, Fahd Resume Talks

JN012115Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the Jordanian and Saudi sides resumed their talks in Al-Hashimyah Palace this evening. A comprehensive evaluation was made of the latest developments of the Arab cause and the efforts to consolidate and strengthen the Arab stand in confronting external dangers. Various aspects of joint cooperation were also discussed.

His Majesty King Husayn today hosted a banquet in honor of Prince Fahd. The banquet was attended by His Highness Prince Muhammad, the Jordanian and Saudi sides at the talks, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces and a number of ministers.

Press on Husayn-Fahd Talks

JN020849Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 2 Aug 78 JN

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Today's Jordanian papers give special attention to the talks between King Husayn and Prince Fahd. The talks are aimed at patching up Arab differences and reviving Arab solidarity. Under the headline "Solidarity Before It Is Too Late," the newspaper AD-DUSTUR says: It is obvious that a new phase has begun with the active role now undertaken by Saudi Arabia to close Arab ranks so the nation can cope with the serious challenges and developments threatening its cause. This new phase is represented by the visits and talks in several Arab capitals by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the delegation accompanying him. So far, these visits and talks have included Cairo, Damascus and now Amman.

There is no doubt that the new momentum provided by fraternal Saudi Arabia to expedite the closing of Arab ranks is important and necessary to cope with the real danger to the Arab cause and region, now that Israel has pushed all peace efforts to a deadlock and the Egyptian initiative has failed to change the intransigent Israeli position or make the United States adopt an evenhanded position on the issue.

The outcome of all peace efforts so far can be summed up with two points: first, Israeli intransigence has reached its peak, and second, the Americans have begun the countdown in Israel's favor which shows collusion with Israel or failure to influence it.

In light of this, which has not escaped the attention of many Arabs, the closing of Arab ranks and the building of intrinsic Arab strength have become a crucial issue. It is the only way to face the various challenges.

Commenting on the same subject under the headline "The Foundation Stone," the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: The current Saudi move by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz aims at saving the Arab situation from a final collapse and rectifying the mistakes and negative attitudes which have led to the split of Arab ranks.

There is no doubt that most Arab leaders now understand that there is no need to continue a dialog of the deaf with Israel, especially since Washington has proved completely incapable of influencing the position of the Zionist leaders. This face must be known to all Arabs so they can define their position in the coming phase. However, it should also be known that this position must be backed by Arab intrinsic power so it can cope with all situations presented by Israel.

We hope that Husayn and Fahd will succeed in laying the foundation stone for a new Arab world capable of meeting all the requirements of action for peace or war.

PRESS CALLS FOR FIRM U.S. CURB ON ISRAEL

JN311015Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 31 Jul 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Under the headline "The Saudi Move," the newspaper AR-RA'Y writes: After His Majesty King Husayn's latest moves in Damascus, Cairo and Riyadh; after President as-Sadat's announcement that there will be no relinquishment of land and sovereignty; and after the failure of all the efforts made by Egypt and the United States to move Israel from its intransigent stand, comes the Saudi move in the three capitals of confrontation--Amman, Damascus and Cairo. The Saudi move assumes unusual importance in view of the weight of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the Arab and international levels.

In the Arab arena, the paper says, much is required, particularly Saudi efforts to heal the rift in the wall of Arab solidarity and to restore accord among comrades of the same heritage and common fate so that the Arabs can confront the dangers of the coming stage. In the international arena, particularly with the shaky U.S. role and nuclear stand characterizing its mediation efforts to solve the Arab-Zionist conflict, Saudi Arabia, with its obvious material influence in most countries, can push the U.S. administration to to adopt a clear stand and play a firmer role vis-a-vis Israel's intransigence and denial of all the requirements of peace based on right and justice in the arena.

The newspaper AD-DUSTUR, under the headline "The Stand and the Not Quite Firm Stand," writes: As President as-Sadat stated yesterday that he is not ready to meet with the Israelis unless they offer new ideas to start with, Washington is now required to adopt a stand other than that of a mediator or partner if it is really concerned about peace in the area to the extent it has been concerned over the past 30 years about arming Israel and strengthening its aggressive abilities to launch three wars against the Arab nation and about giving it the chance with more arms and support to establish itself militarily and to settle its people in the occupied land.

Washington cannot arm the Zionist aggressive mentality and at the same time ask it not to exercise aggression and then convince the Arabs that it is working for peace which Washington knows will not be achieved as long as the balance of forces in the area stands in the way. Washington cannot supply the Israeli military economy with 2 billion dollars annually and give Israel the chance to finance its settlements in the occupied territory and at the same time protest against Israeli settlements and try to convince the Arabs that its statements express its stand and that the financing of settlements is something else.

AD-DUSTUR REPORTS U.S. POSITION UNMASKED

JN291215Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Jul 78 pp 1, 15 JN

[Editorial]

[Text] While the account submitted by President as-Sadat in his latest speech in Alexandria on the progress of his initiative disclosed that Israel has removed its mask and begun to ask openly for land as a price for peace--as it did at the Leeds meeting--the U.S. position, which for some time hid behind a mask of political ethics and of support for the UN resolutions, also removed its mask and unabashedly uncovered its face.

The unveiling of the U.S. stand became clearer than ever following Washington's agreeing to receive the Israeli defense minister to discuss with him details of a secret U.S. plan to provide Israel with sophisticated weapons worth $10-20 billion so as to insure the Israeli army's qualitative superiority until the end of the 1980's.

It is obvious that the United States, which has agreed to discuss such a plan, realizes more than any other party the truth behind Israeli intentions toward the Arab cause. Washington is also well aware that the military superiority which the U.S. arsenal has so far provided to Israel has not encouraged the Israeli leaders to show any degree of flexibility. On the contrary, this military superiority is at present the main and direct reason for the Israeli officials' intransigence which is hindering the peace efforts.

Thus by agreeing to discuss the new plan, which will insure Israeli military superiority over the next decade, Washington is offering Israel a significant gift. Such a gift has but one meaning: to encourage Israel to continue with its intransigent policy.

In order to proceed harmoniously with its stand now that its mask has been removed, Washington began leaking reports that the U.S. administration is "satisfied" with the Israeli ideas presented by Dayan at the Leeds meeting. These ideas revolve around Israel's sharing the West Bank, the so-called compromise territorial solution for the West Bank and postponing discussions on the sovereignty question over what remains of the land after it is shared until after the proposed 5-year transitional period.

These are the ideas which Washington has found "satisfactory," as stated by news reports from the U.S. capital. Such "satisfaction" indicates a blessing for swallowing up Arab land as the price for peace. This is a condition Israel has been demanding for a long time.

It goes without saying that these developments, whether they are related to the new U.S. arms deal with Israel or to the U.S. satisfaction with the swallowing up of Arab lands in the West Bank, mean that the role the United States has assumed under the pretext of wanting to reach a just peace in the area now appears in a suspicious light and creates anxiety and bitterness.

If the U.S. administration believes that such a role would be beneficial during the next congressional primary elections, then this administration has forgotten that such a suspicious role will greatly harm the U.S. reputation in the Arab world and will place U.S. interests in the Arab area in a position which disqualifies them from protection.

For some time the U.S. administration has been releasing "political ethics incense." However, this incense has proved to be nothing but poisonous gas to drug the Arabs. Washington is mistaken if it believes that it can drug the Arabs indefinitely or "oblige them" in the end to capitulate to the evil Israeli designs.

Now that the U.S. position has been unveiled and the face hidden by the mask uncovered, the Arabs should realize that their inherent strength alone holds the cards for a just and honorable solution, and that no matter what the cost, an arduous struggle is the only path the Arabs must follow to defend their entity, civilization and future generations.

ARMY COMMANDER ADDRESSES ARMY DAY CELEBRATION

NC011240Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text of speech delivered by Army Commander Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri at 1 August celebration held at the Defense Ministry building on the occasion of Army Day--read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency: The army, perhaps, understands better than others the eloquence of your silence on the biased campaigns. These campaigns have not succeeded in casting doubt on the correct way in which you are steering the ship of government. You gave an excellent example of sacrifice when you agreed not to soothe your own wounds lest the wounds of our dear Lebanon deepen and become more painful.

Your Excellency, following the example of your eloquent silence and revering the sacrifices you made, the army has never been so silent as now on the campaigns of doubt to which it was exposed. Is it not true that the army has been known as the group to be most silent?

Over a year ago, you bestowed on me the honor of commanding our beloved army. At that time I received your valuable directions to build one army for one Lebanon--an army which could spread the state's sovereignty over every inch of the homeland. On that day, I realized that the army must be rebuilt and not patched together. I also realized the danger of politics in each stage of rebuilding. I realized that success in the initial steps could add to difficulties in other stages. I armed myself with your confidence and that of the esteemed government and with a firm, unshakeable faith in the one, supreme and independent Lebanon. Inspired by the hope of all the citizens to see their army protecting their security and defending their homeland in order that they, like other peoples, may enjoy a good life and prosperity, I led the process of rebuilding and unification amidst an unforgettable atmosphere. It was a charged atmosphere in which the people were emotional and divided as a result of the painful events and difficult conditions which Lebanon had experienced.

Your Excellency, the men who will march past you in a moment in military formation full of faith that the profession of arms will be restricted to them have come from all parts of Lebanon. They come from all communities. They represent the true national unity. They are you because they are an embodiment of what you advocate and work for. These men symbolize the minimum ambitions of our army. They are the foundation of the path to rebuilding and they are not all that we aspire to. We look forward to more ability and strong unity. We are the fighters and realize that dignity and victory depend on our unity. Our army is eager to realize this unity. It will only obey the orders of the legitimate authority.

After more than 1 year since the beginning of its rebuilding, our army entered our south today with its head held high to assume its place and role in imposing the state's sovereignty there preparatory to carrying out its full duties along the homeland's border.

Your Excellency, the efforts you exerted together with those of the esteemed government to equip the army and improve the conditions of the military men--officers, noncomissioned officers and men--had an excellent effect on them and increased their determination and enthusiasm to attain their goal.

Today's symbolic military parade is a true expression of this enthusiasm and determination. One August is the day of our army. This year we mentioned some of the hopes our citizens pin on their army. Next year, we will apply the national [military] service [law], in accordance with your directions and other means which would make everybody in Lebanon contribute to the defense of the homeland, hoping that we would thus be reflecting the hopes of all the citizens. We shall do so, God willing. Long live Your Excellency the president! Long live Lebanon!

Minister Butrus Speaks

NC0113065Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[1 August speech delivered by Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus at the celebration held at the Defense Ministry building on the occasion of the Army Day--recorded]

[Text] It is my opinion that today's celebration has its dimensions and significance. We have seen the army dress its wounds and then rise to gradually assume its place and role again in the homeland. This is a basic and indispensable role. The army, whether we like it or not, is the backbone of the homeland. It is the ideal instrument for implementing the state's policy, for warding off the dangers threatening the country and for imposing the supremacy of law and sovereignty in all parts of Lebanon. The army is the symbol of Lebanese pride and dignity at home and abroad.

We must contemplate the speeches made by his excellency the president and the army commander on this occasion and must believe that the rebuilding of the army, the way it is being done, is in the interests of the future Lebanon. If there are side issues which cause uprisings at times, then let us not exaggerate these uprisings, incriminate the army, place more burdens on it than it can shoulder or fail to do it justice. Such side issues must be properly evaluated. Such issues take place in the institutions of all countries. However, they must be undertaken through deliberation and deep study. They must be resolved with good intentions and in a practical way, not through incrimination. I am confident that there will not be a united Lebanon if we attack this great institution.

PRESIDENT SARKIS MEETS WITH ARMY OFFICERS

NC0111655Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] On the occasion of Army Day, President Sarkis received a delegation of officers led by the army commander, Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri, at the presidential palace at 1330. The delegation came to congratulate his excellency on this occasion. The meeting was attended by the national defense minister, Fu'ad Butrus, and the director general of the Internal Security Forces, Staff Col Ahmad al-Haj.

His Excellency President Sarkis talked to the officers delegation and praised the achievements which have been accomplished by the army commander and his aides, and said: You have given me the hope and the incentive to continue the efforts to save the country. We are willing to give full preference to the building of a strong national army on which all hopes rest. The successful steps which have been taken by the command up to now, are, in themselves, a reply to the campaigns of doubt to which the army is being subjected. The public is following and waiting with eagerness the day when its army will return, strong and vigorous, to impose sovereignty over every inch of Lebanese territory.

Concerning the military parade which his excellency reviewed this morning on Army Day, the president said: I reiterate my congratulations for the organization, the order and the spirit of discipline which I saw displayed this morning. I hope you will continue to speed up your efforts to rebuild the army so that you can terminate the crisis being experienced by the country.

His excellency stressed the importance of this family meeting at a time pervaded by destruction and misery.

Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri replied by thanking President Sarkis for his exemplary patronage and fatherly affection and for his moral and material support which has enabled the command to reach its goals in the military field. The army commander expressed with hope that the political authority will continue to show its generosity to the military so that Lebanon can have a strong army capable of carrying out the tasks assigned to it.

On this occasion, His Excellency President Sarkis invited Army Commander Victor Khuri, the chief of the general staff, the director general of the Internal Security Forces and top level army officers to dinner. The dinner was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defense Fu'ad Butrus.

Prior to the banquet, Army Commander Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri presented the army's gift--a golden sword--to His Excellency President Sarkis to commemorate this occasion.

GOVERNMENT REPLIES TO DEPUTIES' QUERIES

NC011430Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The prime minister, Dr Salim al-Huss, held a meeting this morning at his office with the chairman of the parliamentary National Defense Committee, with Col Fu'ad Lahhud and with Deputy Munir Abu Fadil.

After the meeting, Deputy Abu Fadil said: We met with the prime minister in order to make some observations concerning the defense bill because we want, as does every sincere Lebanese, to have an exemplary defense law which will preserve the army's unity and its sound structure.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss has referred to the parliamentary speaker the government's reply to queries submitted by Deputies Bahij Taqiy ad-Din and Mikha'il ad-Dahir. These queries deal with putting an end to armed manifestations and the existence of private radio stations, the rebuilding of the Lebanese Army and the dispatch of some of its units to the south. They also deal with implementing the plan for army conscription, drawing up a comprehensive security plan for all the areas and the absence from work of employees in the public sectors.

Following is the text of the government's reply:

In reply to the queries by the honorable deputies, Bahij Taqiy ad-Din and Mikha'il ad-Dahir, the government says:

1. The government agrees with the honorable deputies concerning the need to put a speedy end to illegal manifestations and conditions--whether armed or not. The existence of these manifestations is incompatible with the role of the state and its institutions. The government intends to achieve this as rapidly as its existing resources permit.

2. The existence of the private radio stations is an illegal manifestation and is a residue of the events of the past 2 years. Their very existence defies the authority of the state. These stations are a source of incitement, confusion and provocation. This works against the efforts being exerted to bring about peace and amity in this country. There can be no firm security as long as these stations exist. The government will work to close down all of these stations.

3. The political decision to send units of the Lebanese Army to the south was adopted some time ago. The Lebanese and Syrian presidents agreed on this during the Latakia summit. As for the timing of the army's entry, the government has referred this question to the Army Command for a decision based on military considerations.

4. Some steps have been taken to furnish the army with ammunition and to recruit personnel. The government, however, is aware that rebuilding the army in a desirable manner can be carried out only on the basis of a new defense law which will allow for the building of the army on firm national foundations. The military service law will be put into effect in the near future. The Army Command has been notified of the need to make preparations for this as soon as possible.

As for the dismissal of elements whose names have been connected with activities or deeds during the events and whose presence is, consequently, having repercussions which are liable to interfere with attempts to rebuild the army, the government intends to apply to the Chamber of Deputies for the legal authority to investigate their activities. This is because the powers given to the government ended last June upon the expiration of the term stipulated in Legislative Decree No 9 and related amendments.

5. The security plan implemented in the various areas depends on the coordination between the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Internal Security Forces. Circumstances and developments have made it imperative to amend the plan so that the Lebanese Army, in coordination with the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Security Forces, can assume security tasks in predetermined areas. The security plan in the various Lebanese areas is subject to continuous reappraisal by the appropriate authorities in a manner which enables its continuous development. The necessary amendments are made as the need arises.

6. The circumstances which caused the absence of employees from their jobs during the previous stage, or which caused some of them to divide their loyalties among several quarters without recourse to the state, or which led to a spirit of laxity, negligence or corruption among others, are well-known circumstances and there is no need to indulge in explaining them. It suffices to note that the roots of this situation date back to even before the last 2 years' events and that complaints about inefficiency in the public services were loud and clear even in the years preceding the events. However, we wish to point out that many of the reasons that led to this situation are a result of the 2-year war. It is well-known that the country has not been able, to this day, for reasons which need not be explained here, to remove the vestiges of war on more than one level and one position.

VOICE OF LEBANON ON CABINET MEETING, SYRIAN ROLE

NC020657Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 2 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Lebanese Cabinet will meet today to discuss a number of issues and study the possibility of asking the UN Security Council to consider Israel's attitude toward the entry of the Lebanese Army into the UNIFIL operations area in the south.

Some information and ministerial circles expect meetings to be held in B'abda tomorrow with the Syrian foreign minister, who will come to Beirut as he has agreed in telephone contacts with Foreign Minister Butrus.

Informed circles expect Syria to rectify its position in Lebanon in the wake of the advice Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has given to the Syrian officials. Saudi Arabia has expressed hope that the situation will stabilize so that Lebanon will resume its previous active role in serving the Arab causes and in the Arab League.

AL-HUSS RECEIVES LEBANON'S ENVOY TO UN

NC020755Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss arrived in the Presidential Palace at 0900 today and held a meeting with Lebanon's permanent UN delegate, Ghassan Tuwayni. They discussed the contacts being carried out with the United Nations regarding the entry of the Lebanese Army into the south.

VOL: FATAH ELEMENTS ATTACK IRAQI EMBASSY IN BEIRUT

NC011630Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A short while ago we learned that violent clashes were taking place around the Iraqi Embassy which is located in the Ar-Ramlat al-Bayda quarter. The clashes are going on between Fatah elements, who are trying to storm and occupy the embassy, and the embassy guards. The clashes are still going on.

Sham'un, Al-Jumayyil Denounce Attack

NC011850Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1815 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil have denounced the criminal attack to which the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut has been subjected and as a result of which some people have been killed or wounded. They have called on the officials to sever the evil hands which are still causing harm to innocent people and are besmirching Lebanon's role and civilized image in the eyes of the world.

The Iraqi Embassy was subjected this evening to an attack launched by Palestinian elements belonging to the Fatah organizations. A clash took place between the attacking elements and the embassy guards, as other elements directed machinegun fire from the Sports City. The Embassy building was hit by a number of rounds. The Coral Beach swimming area was also hit. One person was killed and others were wounded.

INA: Embassy Unharmed

JN0120572 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2045 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 1 August--Four residents of the (Coral) Hotel were wounded when the Coral Beach area in western Beirut came under heavy fire this evening. The INA correspondent has learned that the Iraqi Embassy building, which is located in the same area, was not harmed by the shooting.

DETERRENT FORCES ON SECURITY SITUATION 1 AUGUST

NC011846Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] In reply to a question, a responsible source of the Arab Deterrent Forces Command has stated: This afternoon, 1 August 1978, three shells fell in Al-Mazra'h Street killing three people and wounding a number of other persons. Several explosive rounds also fell and exploded at the Coral Beach area and the Summerland. As a result of this, three civilians were wounded in this area. The appropriate authorities in the Arab Deterrent Forces are attempting to determine where these rounds are coming from in order to deal with the source of fire in an appropriate manner.

In 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, sniper fire and shelling continued to be directed at the Arab Deterrent Forces. This led them to return fire in a limited way. Apart from this, the situation was generally quiet.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS ON ISRAEL 'AGGRESSION'

NC011414Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Commenting on the army's situation in the south, Prime Minister al-Huss said today that the state's action in sending Lebanese Army units to the south in order to carry out an obvious national duty is an historic step which must be followed up by the state until it achieves complete success.

Israel is obstructing implementation of the operation of the Lebanese force which is heading south. In doing this, Israel is once more displaying its antagonism toward Lebanon by committing overt aggression and by stabbing the Lebanese state and its sovereignty on its own lands. Israel is also defying the international will, with which we have complied by adopting this step. The Lebanese Government has taken this step only because it is aware of its national responsibilities within the context of exercising the state's natural prerogative and its sovereignty over its territories. This step is in absolute accord with the demands of the United Nations and of the countries with forces participating in the UNIFIL forces, as well as of the fraternal and friendly countries.

Israel's attempt to cover up its obstruction of this step by hiding behind certain local groups has been exposed, since confronting a Lebanese force on Lebanese territory represents flagrant aggression.

SPEAKER AL-AS'AD: ISRAEL WILL NOT KEEP ARMY FROM SOUTH

NC011500Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpts] Speaker Kamil al-As'ad has reviewed with a number of deputies the question of establishing a parliamentary grouping and the contacts which are being held in this respect.

After the meeting, Speaker al-As'ad stated: The discussions dealt with the current situation. The brothers, who met to discuss the establishment of the parliamentary grouping, briefed me on the results of their discussions and ideas. In the light of these results, we will invite the deputies to hold consultations on this subject.

Asked about the obstacles facing the army's entry into the south, Al-As'ad said: The obstacles are purely Israeli. We do not believe these obstacles can prevent the army from carrying out its duties.

VOICE OF LEBANON: ARMY DELAYS SENDING MORE UNITS SOUTH

NC0111235Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A tripartite meeting has been held at B'abda Palace by President Ilyas Sarkis, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Minister Fu'ad Butrus. The discussions during the meeting dealt with the measures to be taken to deal with the situation in the south.

Minister Fu'ad Butrus briefed President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Huss on the talks Minister Butrus held with the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, Richard Parker, at the ambassador's residence last night. According to information received, the U.S. ambassador briefed the Lebanese minister on the results of the contacts which had taken place between Washington and Tel Aviv. The results do not call for optimism in the near future. Washington believes that it will take some time before the difficulties surrounding the problem are removed.

At about 1500 today, French Ambassador to Lebanon Hubert Argod and British Ambassador Peter Wakefield arrived at the Presidential Palace and met separately with the foreign minister. After the meeting, the French ambassador said that the discussions dealt with the steps that must be taken to end the difficulties accompanying the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south.

Meanwhile, the Army Command has suspended the dispatch of the remaining units to the south pending the determination of the fate of the unit which went to the south yesterday and was stopped in Kawkaba.

Haddad Disobeys Recall Order

NC0111156Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] News agencies reported at noon today that fire continues to be opened in the direction of the forests around the town of Kawkaba where the Lebanese Army force is stationed. The army soldiers were not able to advance or leave their centers today because of the intensity of the shelling, which has caused several fires.

News agency correspondents have reported that the inhabitants of the border villages were not surprised by the recent developments. Some of them said that they had been expecting such incidents for a long time.

Correspondents coming from the south today revealed that Maj Sa'd Haddad, who had been notified by cable of the decision recalling him, has refused to comply with the order and considers it a Syrian decision dictated to the Lebanese authorities.

Syrian Force Movements

NC011216Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The representative of the Voice of Lebanon has reported that he has seen Syrian forces supported by vehicles and trucks towing mortar guns moving from the Kawkaba, Abu Sarb and Dahr al-Ahmar areas to the Al-Hasbani area. Three Syrian trucks unloaded ammunition at the Al-Hasbani cafe and then blocked the door with rocks.

A Lebanese Army truck carrying food supplies was stopped at a Syrian roadblock and detained until the personnel manning the roadblock had contacted the Syrian Command.

This situation has not yet prompted Israel to declare a state of emergency along its border. However, an Israeli official source asserted to the Jerusalem POST late last night that Israel intends to intervene in south Lebanon if the inhabitants ask it to do so.

ARMY UNITS IN SOUTH COME UNDER ARTILLERY FIRE

NC011915Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Fifth Branch of the Army Command has issued the following communique: At 1800 today the army force which yesterday entered the area under the control of the UN forces came under 105 mm and 175 mm artillery fire. The shelling stopped at 2015. There were only material losses.

ISRAEL: TALKS BETWEEN MILITIAS, LEBANESE ARMY CUT OFF

TA020912Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 2 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Our military correspondent Roni Dani'el reports that the contacts between representatives of the Christian militias and representatives of the Lebanese Army were cut off yesterday.

This morning the Christians are continuing to fire shells at the Lebanese battalion, soldiers of which have entered the UN compound in Kawkaba to find refuge from the shells.

PRO-FRANJIYAH RADIO TO BEGIN TRANSMISSION 31 JULY

NC301206Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1056 GMT 30 Jul 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 30 July--The Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon [Idha'at Lubnan al-Hurr al-Muwahhad] of former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah will begin transmissions on Monday, from the northern town of Ihdin. In reporting this news today, the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR says that the new radio station will transmit its programs on a medium wavelength of 850 khz. For the first 10 days, transmission power will be 20 kilowatts, which will increase to 100 kilowatts when the installation of equipment is completed.

There will be three private radio stations in Lebanon. The first is the Voice of Arab Lebanon, of the Lebanese Al-Murabitun movement; the second is the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon; and the third is the Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD ADDRESSES ARMED FORCES ON ARMY DAY

JN0111185Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus--His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, the commander in chief of the army and armed forces, has addressed our valiant armed forces through the army magazine JAYSH ASH-SHA'B on the occasion of 1 August, the 32d anniversary of the armed forces. Following is the text of the address:

My brothers in the armed forces, brave officers, NCO's and men: Today, a new page of hard work and effort is added to the long record of great deeds of our army, which begins another eventful year today. We celebrate the 32d anniversary with confidence in the army's continuous progress and growing capability in performing its national and pan-Arab tasks.

Brothers, while sending you my congratulations along with my pride and love, and in conveying the greetings of our people and party leadership along with their pride in the great role you are performing in one of the most serious phases in our nation's struggle, I feel reassured that the confidence our Arab people in Syria and everywhere in the Arab homeland have placed in you is in the right and deserved place.

As the vanguard of our confrontation, backed by our masses in Syria, you are the barrier against Zionist aggression and imperialist plotting, protecting our front and homeland. You are also performing a noble task in fraternal Lebanon. Through your great patience and sacrifices, Lebanon can live a peaceful and reassured life, and its people and land can remain united without fear of domination by anyone or of injustice being done to anyone.

The nobility of your mission in Lebanon is accented by your self-restraint and patience vis-a-vis the stabs in the back to which you are exposed while protecting innocent people and remaining alert day and night to prevent any renewal of hostilities, which you stopped when these clashes were claiming numerous innocent lives. You are proving day after day and hour after hour that you are the sincerest brothers and defenders of the whole of Lebanon and of our Palestinian Arab brothers living there.

Heroes of our armed forces: Your great performances during the October War and the [Golan] war of attrition was a heroic epic which brought out the best in our Arab fighters. Through your mighty efforts and the blood of the martyrs, you achieved far-reaching results which could have attained the final objective were it not for the deviationists and defeatists who imagined that safety lies in surrender rather than in pursuing the path of courage and martyrdom, which is the only path to a just peace that can prevail in our area, preserve the dignity of our nation, and safeguard its short and long-term interests. In this situation, your redoubled efforts have effectively brought about an equilibrium in the balance of power which was upset by the neutralization of the Egyptian front. Thus, you have preserved the dignity of the homeland and the nation, saved the Palestine question from liquidation and prevented the terrible collapse which would have occurred if matters had proceeded according to the imperialist-Zionist plan.

Our strong domestic front supports you and will provide you with the elements of strength, that is, men and ammunition. Our Arab nation pins its hopes on you. Our masses will be with you in your steadfastness in defense of Arab territory and rights. Developments after the October War have clearly proved that intrinsic Arab strength is the only means to liberate our territories and regain our rights. The more resources our nation places at the disposal of the battle, the more we can shorten the time, reduce the sacrifices and guarantee victory in this battle.

The enemy we are facing wants the land. He is tenaciously holding on to it. He insists on continuing the policy of aggression and expansion. He will not give up this policy unless forced to do so. In the accounts of the intrinsic Arab strength, the Syrian Army figures as the nucleous and main base.

O hope of the nation, o shield of the homeland: Go forward always and exert more efforts to preserve your high standards and improve them. Today we must remember our righteous martyrs. They are our great example and the torch lighting the way of our struggle. We pledge that we will continue on their path.

Finally, I repeat my thanks to all of you, formations and individuals, and I reaffirm my belief that you are capable of meeting your responsibilities and fulfilling your historic mission in attaining our nation's objectives of unity, freedom and socialism.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE ENDS TALKS, LEAVES DAMASCUS

JN0111145Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Talks resumed this morning between President Hafiz al-Asad and His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince. His highness and the accompanying delegation left Damascus later today for Amman. Prince Fahd was seen off by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halas, several ministers, and the Saudi ambassador and embassy staff in Damascus.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON SYRIAN-SAUDI TALKS

JN0111705Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal said that the talks [in Syria] dealt comprehensively with the Arab situation. He said that the two sides' visualization of the situation in Lebanon is identical. The Saudi foreign minister added that Saudi Arabia and Syria support the Lebanese legitimacy. He said: We hope that stability will be restored to Lebanon so that this country will return to the Arab fold, as before.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal added: With regard to the situation in the Middle East, our views are identical and consistent.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM GISCARD D'ESTAING

JN0113O2Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1215 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Jean Francois-Poncet, secretary general of the French presidential office, who handed him a message from French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. The meeting was attended by Henri Servan, head of the Middle East Department in the French Foreign Ministry.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER RETURNS FROM WEEK VISIT TO PRC

JN0111116Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 0840 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 1 August--Engineer Ahmad Qabalan, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, returned to Damascus this morning from Peking following a weeklong visit to China at the invitation of the PRC minister of agriculture.

Qabalan said that during this visit he and his delegation members became acquainted with China's experiences in agriculture and he held talks with his Chinese counterpart on the development of agricultural cooperation between the two countries and the exchange of agricultural expertise.

ALGERIA

OPTIMISM VOICED ON BOUTEFLIKA-GISCARD TALKS IN FRANCE

APS Reviews Relations

LD011340Y Algiers APS in French 0800 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Algiers--It has been confirmed in Algiers that Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and minister of foreign affairs, will go to the Elysee Palace today, 1 August, where he will be received at 1700 by the president of the French Republic.

This meeting answers the wish of President Giscard d'Estaing to continue the discussions he had with the Algerian minister of foreign affairs on 12 July of this year when Mr Bouteflika went to Paris with a message from President Boumediene. It was then mutually agreed to intensify the dialog on all questions of joint interest, in particular on the tension which exists in the Maghreb region owing to the Western Sahara conflict and its consequences.

Regarding relations between Algeria and France, President Valery Giscard d'Estaing said in his reply to the message of good wishes sent to him by President Boumediene on the occasion of the French national day:

"I appreciate the message you have been good enough to send me on the occasion of 14 July. The events which our national day celebrate are the symbol of the ideals of liberty and justice which the French people have brought the world in conformity with a vocation which remains unique.

"Like yourself, I am convinced that cooperation between our two countries is a natural thing, and it is in this spirit that the French Government proposes that our relations should be the subject of overall examination.

"As you know, I attach the greatest value to the maintenance of open dialog between Algeria and France. I want the dialog which has been reopened to continue for the very reason that relations of trust between our two countries are necessary for the equilibrium of the region to which they both belong. Thus, relations between France and Algeria shall regain a quality which corresponds to the affinities which unite our two peoples.

"I beg you, Mr President, to accept the assurances of my very high personal consideration."

Bouteflika Comments on Talks

LD012224Y Paris Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] French-Algerian relations are increasingly improving. The nearly 2-hour conversation between the president of the republic and the Algerian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, at the Elysee this afternoon confirms this. The latter left the presidential palace relaxed and smiling, and said: The dynamics of peace exist. We shall not take the responsibility for discouraging them. Mr Bouteflika particularly expressed pleasure at France's interest in seeking a solution in the Western Sahara affair. This is exactly the way we have always seen France's role in the region, added the Algerian foreign minister. In short, tension is in the process of being relaxed.

[Bouteflika--begin recording] I think that the relaxing of tension will take place slowly. I would like you to realize that it is not because the positions of two sovereign, independent countries are different, that there is a total breakdown between these two countries.

This is the expression of two policies. We are a country of the Third World, with all the problems--you can recall the background of Africa, Asia and Latin America. France is a Western country with its own past. There is no doubt that the history of both sides constitutes an element of the nature of the foreign policy of each. But you are trying to underline a quality in the Algerian attitude which does not exist. We are in the process of becoming closer and explaining our positions to each other. The dialog is serious, it is grave, it is responsible. We have the firm intention of continuing in this way. Regarding the Algerian side we have a real desire to succeed, and to achieve conclusions that will allow cooperation to return to its best period. [end recording]

More on Talks

LD020225Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The meeting between Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and minister for foreign affairs, and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing ended today 2 hours after it started.

Following that meeting Bouteflika made a statement emphasizing that he was satisfied with France's interest in finding a solution to the Western Sahara crisis. He said this is exactly the way he had always visualized France's role in the region.

After explaining that he had great hope that France would clarify precisely the nature of its relations and ties with the various countries concerned so that peace would be restored on a just basis, Bouteflika explained that the recent changes in Mauritania revealed that the file on Western Sahara had not been closed, that the situation in the region is developing in a very sensitive way, and that the problem is still there--a problem of a people who should be given the right to self-determination as any other people. Bouteflika stressed that Algeria and France do not recognize any borders of Mauritania other than those internationally recognized, namely the borders that have existed since 1960. He also stressed that this is considered a point of agreement. Bouteflika said that France had voted for every UN resolution connected with the determination of the fate of the Saharan people.

Replying to a question regarding Morocco's attitude, Bouteflika said that Algeria hopes that France will clarify the nature of its relations with Morocco in order to persuade it to search for a correct, future-oriented solution, and not one based on the past with its historic differences.

Bouteflika explained that the Arab Maghreb cannot be built on the ruins of the Saharan people and said that we cannot possibly bargain over the question of peoples' liberation, either here or in any other place. At this point Bouteflika emphasized that Algeria has no territorial or economic ambitions, not even on the question of a passage [presumably to the Atlantic coast].

MOROCCO

MAP: ALGERIAN OPPOSITION LEADER CONDEMNS BOUMEDIENE

LD012120Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] Rabat--Algerian leader Mohamed LebJaoui, chairman of the Algerian People's Forces and Army for Democracy and the Unity of the Arab Maghreb, says that the stance adopted by Colonel Boumediene at the Khartoum and Belgrade conferences shows that the desire for peace is nothing more than a tactical operation and that his expansionist objectives and his desire for continued tension in the Arab Maghreb area are the axis of the policy of his regime.

"We continuously remind our citizens and Arab and African brethren and all our friends that out of his desire to reach an impossible leadership in Africa and the Arab world, Colonel Boumediene shamelessly created the Sahara problem in 1975." Algerians know the result of the policy that contradicts the concept of the Arab Maghreb. They know that Boumediene's adventure in the Sahara costs them 1.5 billion old francs daily and that there are more than 2 million unemployed in addition to immigrant workers in Europe who number over 1.5 million. "The present schemes of Colonel Boumediene aim at spreading dissension in national consensus in Morocco, separating Nouakchott from Rabat and working to neutralize France and Spain and, if possible, making them change their stands."

If the Algerian Government wishes to establish normal relations with France, this will emanate from Boumediene's desire to exchange concessions with France and Spain, especially with regard to our immigrant workers. "It was Boumediene who asked for the mediation of France. We will not hesitate to stress within this framework the role that France can play, which can have beneficial results. We support without reservation any initiative on the part of Paris which can contribute toward the establishment of peace. We also consider that the participation of the Arab and African brethren is necessary in order to render such an initiative successful.

"On the other hand, we do not ignore that a number of Colonel Boumediene's advisers believe that it is time to break the Moroccan-Mauritanian solidarity with the help of some French quarters and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi by means of concluding a separate agreement with Nouakchott. According to such an agreement, Nouakchott concedes part of its Saharan territories for a new state that may completely succumb to the Algerian regime while preparing a confederation or federation between two or three states pending effecting a change in Nouakchott through a coup d'etat against the present leaders."

Boumediene should know that his ideas of successive conspiracies cannot in any way lead toward peace. He should know, lastly, that any solution should take place within the framework of respecting the national sovereignty and unity of Morocco.

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES CHADIAN AMBASSADOR

JN011539Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 1 August--Abu al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, first vice president, today received the Chadian ambassador in Khartoum, who conveyed to him a verbal message for President Numayri from Chadian President Felix Malloum on the Khartoum agreement concerning national unity in Chad and the steps of the second stage to implement that agreement.

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN ARMY ATTACKS EL AAIUN; SEVERAL KILLED

LD241252Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 24 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Saharan People's Liberation Army on the night of 20-21 July carried out a big offensive on El Aaiun. The Saharan fighters, using heavy artillery, shelled the enemy's military installations, several of which were destroyed along with two defense positions of the town. About 10 soldiers were killed and several others wounded. This is stated in a communique of the Defense Ministry of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic.

The communique adds that this operation against the town of El Aaiun comes after attacks by Saharan fighters against monarchist troops about 15 kilometers northeast of El Aaiun in [name indistinct] region where the monarchist forces of occupation have already suffered resounding defeats in the past 3 months.

The Saharan fighters also carried out an ambush on the same day in Zak region of southern Morocco. During this operation Moroccan troops suffered losses of 12 soldiers killed and about 20 wounded.

POLISARIO, CHILEAN GROUP ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE

LD310958Y Algiers APS in French 1100 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Algiers--The POLISARIO Front and the Chilean Popular Unity Action Movement [MAPU], in a joint communique released following a meeting between representatives of the two organizations in Algiers have stressed "the substantial advances made in the revolutionary struggle waged by the Saharan and Chilean peoples against imperialism and its agents and condemned the imperialist maneuvers in Africa and Latin America."

MAPU and the POLISARIO Front reaffirm "the need to affirm a fighting solidarity (?with) the peoples of the African and Latin American continents" and stress the "profoundly anti-imperialist character of the struggle waged by the Chilean and Saharan peoples."

In the communique, MAPU "highly appreciates the POLISARIO Front's decision to temporarily halt military operations in Mauritanian territory," seeing in this decision "concrete proof that the Saharan people are prime defenders of a policy of peace, "and considers that it is also "a very important precedent for more determined action by the United Nations and all international organizations to find a just solution to the Western Saharan question within a legal framework and in conformity with the principles governing the international community."

The POLISARIO Front, for its part, hails the admission of the Chilean resistance as an observer-member in the nonalined movement.

The two movements reaffirm their solidarity with just liberation causes throughout the world, particularly the struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa against the racist regimes, the struggle of the Palestinian people against Zionism, and the struggle of the people of East Timor.

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS SURROUNDING LEBANESE ARMY DEPLOYMENT

Rizq Outlines Dangers

TA011216Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The spokesman of the Christian militias in the south, Francis Rizq, has told our correspondent that if no compromise is found the militias will not allow the battalion to pass through their territory and they will open fire. He said that there would be a great war, adding that the Christians fear that in the wake of the battalion the Syrians will come to bring supplies to the Lebanese soldiers. Later the Syrians would close the good fence and act against the Christians in the south as they have Beirut.

IDF Shelling Denied

TA011215Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Our correspondent has denied a report broadcast this morning on Beirut radio to the effect that IDF artillery shelled the battalion encamped in the region of Kawkaba this morning. Radio Beirut made the statement on behalf of the Lebanese Army Command, saying that one soldier was injured and several vehicles were damaged in the shelling.

Agrees to Deployment

TA020913Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 2 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Sources in Jerusalem have told military correspondent Shalom Qital that Israel no longer opposes the deployment of units of the Lebanese Army in southern Lebanon. The sources said that there are two reasons for the change in attitude: one, that the Syrian unit accompanying the Lebanese battalion has returned north; and two, that this is another move in restoring Lebanese sovereignty in the hope that Lebanese Army units will take control of other areas in which there is a foreign presence.

Israel has reiterated its position that the Christian enclaves are to be defended.

Firm In Backing Christians

TA012005Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Senior Israeli elements say Israel is firm in its support of the position of the Christians in southern Lebanon not to allow the Lebanese expeditionary battalion to transit the enclaves, despite the reports about political pressures that had been exerted on Israel concerning this matter. This is reported by our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir.

The Israeli elements estimated that if the Lebanese insist on passing through, a serious conflagration may be expected in the area. Such a conflagration is liable to thwart the settlement that has been reached in southern Lebanon in the wake of the Litani operation.

Tension Around Enclaves

TA012011Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The tension around the Christian enclave in southern Lebanon increased considerably this evening, and Major Haddad's men opened artillery fire in the direction of Kawkaba village, in the vicinity of which the regular Lebanese Army battalion is encamped.

This took place after the commander of the battalion this afternoon brought an apparently negative response from Beirut to the proposal Haddad had submitted to him this morning about the manner of the battalion's transit through the Marj 'Uyun enclave.

The contacts between the parties continue, with the participation of the United States and France, in an effort to find a settlement.

Talks Remain Deadlocked

TA011725Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[Text] The contacts in southern Lebanon between the Christians and Lebanese Army representatives ended this evening without agreement. Military correspondent Roni Dani'el reports that two tendencies were emerging during the discussions: that the regular Lebanese Army battalion move by military roads to the southern sector, but not through the Christian enclave; or that the battalion return to its base in the north in order to restore calm in the area, and that the route it will take to the south be decided in additional contacts.

Our correspondent points out that the Christians firmly oppose the transit of the Lebanese battalion, mainly because Syria promised Lebanon that Syrian forces would also safeguard the logistic line of the battalion after it is deployed in the south. This means that Syrian forces would be deployed inside the enclave.

Sources in the Foreign Ministry in Beirut have reported that the United States, West Germany, France and Norway promised Lebanon to try and persuade Israel to soften the stand of the Christians.

DAYAN LEAVES COMMITTEE FOR SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS

TA011045Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Text] Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan left the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs (settlement in the territories) on his own initiative and his request to withdraw from the committee was approved at the cabinet meeting this week.

In reply to a question the foreign minister told a MA'ARIV correspondent this morning that this should not be viewed "as an act of protest against the policy of settlement in general, or against a certain act of settlement in particular."

The following details have been learned about the events leading to Dayan's decision, which aroused special interest due to the character of the particular ministerial committee:

For months Dayan did not participate in the committee meetings. A few weeks ago he sent a letter to the government secretary, Mr Arye Na'or, expressing his wish to withdraw from the committee. He was told that, formally speaking, only the government could decide on the issue, since the approval of the composition of the various ministerial committees is in the hands of the government. Thus, the foreign minister's request was referred to the cabinet. It was discussed at the cabinet meeting held the day before yesterday.

The foreign minister explained that he did not see any use in participating in this committee, which demanded of its members to continuously and thoroughly deal with all subjects raised before it, be they about where to settle or about where not to settle. The workload imposed on him, the foreign minister said, prevented him from dealing with these subjects. Mr Dayan added that he is absolutely at peace with the government's settlement policy, both from the point of view of the principle involved and from the point of view of its execution.

DMC FACTION URGES WITHDRAWAL FROM GOVERNMENT

TA010917Y Tel Aviv HAZOFE in Hebrew 1 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[Text] The former Shinui members in the DMC have recently held talks with Minister Me'ir 'Amit to persuade nim to support their proposal that the DMC withdraw from the government.

It has been reported that Minister 'Amit does not reject the idea of withdrawal outright and that he has not yet given a final answer on this matter. A reliable source among the former Shinui members said that in private talks Minister 'Amit made it clear that he is not satisfied with the ministries of which he is in charge--transportation and communications--and that he encounters difficulties in the execution of the reforms he has outlined in these ministries. It is possible that his confidantes in the DMC Council will support a withdrawal from the government when this question is raised for discussion.

JERUSALEM ASSESSES SAUDI ROLE IN POLITICAL SITUATION

TA010936Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Excerpt] It is not doubted in Jerusalem that Saudi Arabia is playing a major role in the pressure being exerted by As-Sadat. The unclear question, regarding which political elements make contradictory assessments, is whether the position of Saudi Arabia, which rejects the continuation of Egypt's peace initiative because of Israel's intransigency, is coordinated with As-Sadat.

According to one assessment Saudi Arabia does not want to uphold, even if it is only by acquiescence, As-Sadat's initiative and is now acting for a consolidation of the Arab world with the aim of isolating Egypt and forcing it to abandon its contacts with Israel. According to the other assessment, what we have here is a coordinated Egyptian-Saudi struggle to gain concessions from Israel via the United States.

It was noted in Jerusalem yesterday that in any case everything is between the United States and Egypt now since Israel has recently displayed a relatively more moderate position that was received favorably by the United States, and has also consented to take part in the meeting at Umn Khushayb.

WEAPONS FOUND IN WEST BANK REFUGEE CAMP

TA020603Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Aug 78 TA

[Text] A large stockpile of weapons and sabotage devices has been discovered in the Balatah refugee camp in Nabulus. A 21-year-old resident of the camp led security forces to the stockpile after admitting being recruited by a terrorist organization.

ITIM's correspondent says that in the past few days security forces have arrested scores of youths in the region of Janin, Nabulus and Ramallah for belonging to terrorist organizations and intending to carry out attacks in Israel.

DRUZE IN GOLAN HEIGHTS TO RECEIVE ISRAELI ID CARDS

TA010722Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Aug 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will act in favor of distributing Israeli identity cards to Druze residing in the Golan Heights who so desire them. The prime minister gave a promise along these lines to leaders of the Druze local councils of Majdal Shams, Mas'adah, Buq'ata and 'Ayn Qunyah who came to his office. Correspondent Zevi Lidar reports on this meeting: [begin recording]

The meeting took place on the initiative of the Druze and the director general of the prime minister's office, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori, the governor of the Golan Heights and MK 'Amal an-Nasir ad-Din also participated. The representatives of the Druze expressed fears about their fate should the Golan Heights be returned to Syria and they spoke bitterly about the massacre being carried out by the Syrians and the PLO against the Christians of Lebanon. They asked that the prime minister enforce Israeli law on the Golan Heights and grant Israeli citizenship to all residents of the heights. According to them, a move of this nature would we welcomed by the vast majority of the inhabitants of the region.

The prime minister tried to calm the fears of the Druze. He said that the Israeli Government would not allow the situation developing in Lebanon to repeat itself on the Golan Heights. As for the enforcement of Israeli law on the Golan Heights, Mr Begin said that this is a sensitive political issue that requires a government decision and, when the time comes and the need arises, the government will conduct deliberations on the issue. At the same time he believes that there is no reason against granting Israeli citizenship on an individual basis to any resident of the Golan Heights who so desires. He said that the issue requires examination and he will discuss it with the minister of the interior this week.

The Druze who participated at the meeting expressed satisfaction with the prime minister's remarks and they reported this to MKs Jacques Amir, Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino and Amnon Lin. These three, together with 'Amal an-Nasir ad-Din, recently set up a small parliamentary lobby for issues affecting the Golan Heights. They also demand that the government enforce Israeli law on the Golan Heights and have even asked for an urgent meeting with the prime minister on this issue. Shoshana Arbeli-Almozlino has submitted a motion for the agenda on the need to strengthen Jewish settlement in the Rafah approaches and the Golan Heights. However, yesterday her faction's executive--the Alinement--disqualified the motion, claiming that submitting a motion of this nature on the eve of Vance's arrival in Israel and at the height of the sensitive negotiations with Egypt might cause Israel major political damage. [end recording]

PRC OIL MINISTER MEETS WITH NIOC DIRECTORS

LD011430Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1300 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] The PRC minister of petroleum and chemical industries met and held talks this afternoon with Mr Hushang Ansari, chairman of the Board of Directors and managing director of the NIOC. During this meeting, the principles of oil cooperation and issues of interest to the two countries concerning different forms of energy were discussed. The meeting, which took place at the NIOC central office, was also attended by the PRC ambassador to the imperial court; Mr Hasan 'Ali Mehran, deputy chairman of the Board of Directors and deputy managing director; and a number of the NIOC directors.

Meets Energy Minister

LD011128Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 1 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] The PRC minister of the petroleum and chemical industries today met and held talks with Mr Tavakkoli, Iranian minister of energy. The meeting, which was held at the energy minister's office, was attended by the PRC's ambassador to Iran and the members of the Chinese minister's delegation.

The PRC minister of the petroleum and chemical industries, who arrived in Tehran some time ago for a visit to our country, visited Khuzestan during the early part of his visit and toured NIOC operations, refinery installations and other development and industrial activities in Khuzestan. During his visit to our country, he has started talks on the purchase of oil.

KHORASAN SEEKS INFORMATION ON RIOT CASUALTIES

LD281121Y Tehran PARS in English 1012 GMT 28 Jul 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 27 July, PANA (PARS News Agency)--The newspaper KHORASAN in its Thursday issue asked its readers to furnish the paper with any information they have regarding the number of people killed or wounded in the recent riots in Mashhad in addition to what was reported by the mass media over the past two days. This is in reference to a [word indistinct] communique written by several [words indistinct] in Mashhad, a copy of which was circulated on Sunday among shopkeepers and others around the shrine of Imam Reza. The communique claimed that a large number of people had been killed or wounded in the disturbances (?following the) funeral of the Khorassani religious leader, Shaikh Ahmad Kafi. Official reports put the number of casualties at one policeman stabbed to death and 33 (?wounded), including 7 policemen.

Receives Information

LD281854Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 28 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpt] One of the signatories of the Mashhad handwritten pamphlet of 24 July said in an interview given to KHORASAN, the daily newspaper published in Mashhad, that the number of those killed and injured in the Mashhad incidents was the same as that announced by the press, radio and television. The signatory, whose interview has been published in today's KHORASAN, is named as Haaj Miza Javad Tehrani.

KHORASAN had asked the signatories of the pamphlet to reveal the number of those killed if it was more than the figure which has been published in the mass media, and to give evidence they may have had so that the people could be informed.

AFGHANISTAN

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY POLITBURO HOLDS MEETING

LDT011646Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 22 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party [PDP] of Afghanistan reports:

The Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDP held a meeting under the chairmanship of Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the party's Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan from 0930 to 1230 today at the People's House.

The meeting reviewed a number of topics and adopted decisions regarding the printing and publication of books and progressive scholarly works on a greater scale in order to raise the political awareness of the people and intellectuals of Afghanistan; concerning the attraction of foreign aid and its effective use in the direction of Afghanistan's economic growth and the issuing of specific instructions to the ministries in this respect; about the establishment of political organs and the training and organization of party cadres in the people's armed forces of Afghanistan in a specific manner.

The Politburo meeting also discussed the sending of a Democratic Republic of Afghanistan delegation to Havana to take part in the Cuban national festival, and it was decided that a delegation be sent to that country following an invitation from the Cuban Government.

BANGLADESH

BANGLADESH-BURMA BOUNDARY TALKS END IN DACCA 1 AUGUST

BK011716Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Talks on the demarcation of the land boundary between Bangladesh and Burma ended in Dacca today. Both sides agreed to recommend to their respective governments the demarcation of land boundary between the two countries for approval with a view to concluding a formal agreement between the two countries. After week-long border talks, the Burmese delegation led by the director general of the Survey Department left for home this evening. The Bangladesh side was led by the surveyor general.

HAQ RETURNS TO DACCA FROM BELGRADE NONALINED CONFERENCE

BK011555Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The foreign minister, Prof Shamsul Haq, has expressed the confidence that the nonalinement movement will reach its desired goal surmounting all obstacles. He was talking to newsmen on his return here [Dacca] in the evening after leading the Bangladesh delegation to the Belgrade conference.

Professor Haq described the 5-day foreign ministers conference as historic and stormy in the background of contemporary global situation. He said the unity and cohesion among the member states were the supreme objective of the Belgrade conference. This has been achieved despite many difficulties, he added.

INDIA

ISI CARRIES DESAI RAJYA SABHA COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR POLICY

BK0110O7Y Delhi ISI in English 0832 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] In response to a calling [words indistinct] the prime minister's reported statement that India would not undertake nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes and views expressed by him on the previous nuclear explosion in India in 1974, Morarji Desai made the following statement in the Rajya Sabha on July 31:

My honourable friends have raised two questions to which they wish to call my attention. The first question relates to my statement that India would not undertake a nuclear explosion even for peaceful purposes, and the second question refers to views expressed by me on the Pokhran explosion in 1974.

Let me deal with the first question. The house must appreciate that science, which exists to serve mankind, has moved a long way since the explosion of the atomic bomb at Hiroshima, which in itself had awakened the conscience of the entire world to the immense potentiality of mass destruction by use of nuclear science for military purposes. That awakening has grown and not declined with the passage of time and increased in qualitative and quantitative terms in regard to the arsenal of destructive atomic weapons by super powers. The world has progressively realised more and more that this race in mutually destructive weapons has in it germs of extermination of all life on this planet of earth itself. The so-called nuclear deterrent has not led to any reduction in this arsenal. In fact, it has led to the accumulation of this weaponry, particularly among the two leading powers of world, the USA and the USSR. It is a tribute to this awakening that these two powers have themselves shown an increasing awareness of these dangers and have addressed themselves to the task of reducing the extent of that danger and realise the necessity of eliminating such weaponry altogether.

The question of nuclear science in the context of this development has therefore become not merely a scientific problem but a political and humanitarian problem also. I am sure that this house will appreciate the fact that it is no longer for scientists to call the tune in that field. Atomic energy has been utilised more for military than for peaceful purposes both from the point of view of investment and research. The history of the development of nuclear research has shown that the temptation to switch over from peaceful to nonpeaceful purposes has proved difficult to resist on the part of those countries which consider it a matter of political and strategic advantage and resort to explosions ostensibly for peaceful purposes but in reality for military technology. During the last 33 years, the number of such powers has grown from one, namely the USA, to seven, that is the USA, the USSR, the UK, France and China, with Israel and South Africa among the suspects.

We have hitherto concentrated almost wholly on the pursuit of nuclear research and development for peace purposes. I say almost wholly in view of the explosion at Pokhran in 1974, which has been taken by the world at large as a departure from that policy and the consequences of which we experience every time we enter into any cooperation and collaboration arrangement for the fulfillment of our need of fuel and equipment for the conduct of research and development. At every step, we have to face the doubts and suspicions of our intentions in all countries from which we have to import these without which our research and development have been suffering and will continue to suffer a setback. At the same time even the USA and the USSR have been realising the dangers of the explosions. They have already entered into a treaty to abandon overground tests. They are negotiating about the comprehensive banning of tests altogether, including peaceful nuclear explosion for at least 3 or 5 years.

A special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament has called for the expeditious conclusion of a comprehensive test ban treaty. The question of peaceful nuclear explosions has ceased to remain a national issue only. It has become an issue for collective deliberations of world powers, big or small, super or otherwise.

As regards the scientific necessity of explosions, I have already stated that the main countries in which nuclear research is taking place are moving away from such explosions except for military purposes. Apart from this, I cannot think of any use of such explosions which cannot be obtained by other means except that alternatives would be more expensive and time consuming. Should we subject thousands of people in the vicinity to hazards which are associated with nuclear explosions merely to save time and money? As regards the scientific value of such an explosion, from my knowledge of the result of the Pokhran explosion, I find that "the experiment," if it can be called that, merely confirmed certain theoretical knowledge and gave some information of the behaviour of radioactivity and neighbouring rocks and shells which was considered to be of value. I regard these results inadequate compensation for the jolt to international opinion which it has imparted and the consequences it has had on our peaceful pursuit of nuclear research and development. It is true that in this development we have taken a unilateral decision to abjure explosions even for peaceful purposes. We now stand justified by the developing conscience of the whole world on it. It seems that France and China have chosen to follow their own independent line. So far as France is concerned, it has been adapting itself to the voice of that conscience. It has accepted certain safeguards in the exercise of its own individual judgement. As far as China, it is my firm conviction that one day it would also have to bend before the judgement of the world and respond to the universal demand for a halt to the build up of the nuclear arsenal and its reduction with a view to eventual elimination.

Scientific discoveries like gunpowder, the automobile, electricity, aircraft, electronics and atomic energy have uses both peaceful and otherwise. Of these, nuclear energy can be the most destructive of mankind and even the world. The world is getting increasingly alert to that danger. It is incumbent on all nations of the world to save the world from that catastrophe which has cast its dark shadow over it. We have to do so in time, and my submission is that that time is here and now.

So far as India is concerned, as a nation we have been traditionally devoted to peace. Throughout history we have stood for certain spiritual and moral values in the light of which we developed our own lines of internal and external policies. If we stand for those values and if we translate into actual policies that passion for peace and love of humanity for which the world knows us and if we are sincere about disarmament and universal brotherhood, there is no alternative for us but to stand for exorcising the demon of the use of nuclear science for no peaceful purposes. To my mind, the only way to secure this objective is by way of outlawing all atomic tests or explosions. This is the objective toward which the world is moving and this is goal which we have set for ourselves. This is the field in which we have to set an example.

I shall now come to the second problem, namely my view on the nuclear explosion at Pokhran in 1974, I know from my discussions with the heads of foreign countries how much misunderstanding that explosion has created in their assessment of our devotion to the pursuit of this great scientific discovery of modern times. Nor am I convinced that we have gained information of scientific value for peaceful use which would justify the risk of such misunderstanding and consequential embarrassment in international relationships on this issue. Scientists now realise what handicaps they are experiencing in carrying on with their research activities. The way it was carried out in secret exposes us to accusations made against us both internally and externally.

The manner in which we indulged in self-praise after the explosion and it was exploited for sake of prestige both internally and externally and in light of scientific value and necessity of the results achieved, there is only one conclusion which can be reached and it is that the considerations were more political than scientific. I feel I am justified in thinking that it was done more for political than for scientific gains. At the same time, I should like to make it clear that I have maintained and said so to foreign dignitaries with whom I have discussed the matter that I do not believe that the Pokhran explosion was directed towards a switchover to military purpose.

I have deliberately decided to explain points which underline this calling-attention matter in order to enable the house to view it in the broader perspective of our traditions, our spiritual and moral values and our passion for peace, our love for humanity, the children of mother earth of which we are an undissoluble constituent element. We have to attempt to save the world from the holocaust of a much greater nuclear explosion than the explosion at Pokhran. Let the house keep before it this wider concept in dealing with our policy in regard to explosions for peaceful purposes.

GANDHI DENIES POKHRAN NUCLEAR TEST FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

BK011038Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has denied that the Pokhran nuclear test conducted in Rajasthan during her tenure as prime minister was carried out for political purposes. She was speaking to newsmen in Lucknow today.

Accusing the ruling the Janata Party leadership of changing the stand on various issues frequently, she said the prime minister, Mr Desai, had earlier stated that India would not attempt any nuclear explosions. But now he says it can be done in certain cases.

SUPREME COURT'S ADVICE SOUGHT FOR GANDHI TRIAL

BK011530Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The president has sought an advisory opinion of the Supreme Court on the question of constitutional validity of enacting a law to set up a special court to try cases of emergency excesses. The presidential reference was made today. The court was requested specifically to pronounce on the validity of the proposed bill. The draft of the bill has also been sent to the Supreme Court.

Under the constitution, the president is entitled to refer to the Supreme Court important issues for its advisory opinion.

The term would cover the former prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, some of her cabinet colleagues, her son Mr Sanjay Gandhi and others indicted by the Shah Commission and other commissions of inquiry set up by the government under the Commissions of Inquiry Act.

The reference to the Supreme Court follows a cabinet decision to this effect some days ago.

VAJPAYEE RETURNS FROM BELGRADE NONALINED CONFERENCE

BK0116Z1Y Delhi ISI in English 1517 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] External Affairs Minister A.B. Vajpayee has returned from the Belgrade conference of nonalined foreign ministers with the confidence that the movement will not be derailed by any single country or a group of countries, reports PTI.

"There is unity in diversity and that unity has been emphasised at the Belgrade meeting while giving every opportunity for differences to be aired," he told reporters at the airport.

Describing the Belgrade conference as "a milestone in the long journey" of a movement which started in 1961, Vajpayee said that it has once again vindicated India's stand that if the movement were to maintain its unity and solidarity, "all nations must resist the temptation of using the movement for furthering narrow national, regional or ideological interests." The movement, he said, has reaffirmed its faith in the committment to fundamental principles governing it since its inception.

The external affairs minister referred to what he called "many prophets of doom" who on the eve of the conference had predicted that the movement would be split and that the nonaligned nations would not be able to maintain their unity. "These prophesies have been belied, and the movement has emerged much stronger and ready to face all challenges in order to deflect it from the chosen path of genuine nonalignment," he said.

Replying to questions, Vajpayee said that there were suggestions at the meeting that bilateral disputes would be solved by using the good offices either of other nonaligned nations or of the nonaligned bureau or the movement as a whole. No formal machinery had been set up for this purpose. He said that it was emphasised at the conference that if the nonaligned countries decide to settle disputes without taking recourse to force, then it would go a long way in strengthening the movement. This could be achieved only if all countries adhered to the five principles of peaceful coexistence and respected the existing borders.

On the role of India in bringing about a consensus, Vajpayee pointed out that the Political Committee, which was presided over by India's representative Rikhi Jaipal, had produced a document underlying the basic principles of the movement.

Asked whether there was any apprehension that some countries might boycott the Havana summit next year, Vajpayee said that India has advised all countries to go to Havana in full strength. The dates of the conference had been endorsed by the Belgrade conference too, and having reaffirmed the fundamental principles governing the movement "there is no apprehension that the movement will be derailed by any single country or a group of countries." "All countries are party to the political document which has restated the position of nonaligned nations on various international problems. There is unity in diversity and that unity was emphasised at the Belgrade meet while giving every opportunity for differences to be expressed," he said.

In spite of acute differences and disagreements on certain problems, the Belgrade conference can be described as "a milestone in the long journey which started in 1961, Vajpayee said.

DESAI: INDIA CAN ACT AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN U.S., USSR

BK011035Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Morarji Desai has said friendly relations between the United States and the Soviet Union are essential for insuring world peace. Mr Desai was talking to a group of U.S. clergymen when they called on him at his residence in New Delhi. He said he has been pleading with both these countries to develop friendly relations and India can act as a mediator if they like.

Regarding Indo-U.S. cooperation in the world problems, the prime minister said both countries believe in the same values. About his visit to the United States, Mr Desai said he is fully satisfied and he had useful discussions with the U.S. leaders over several issues.

ISI COMMENTS ON COMMERCE MINISTER'S TALKS IN USSR

BK011047Y Delhi ISI in English 0857 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Minister of Commerce Mohan Dharia on July 31 had talks on Indo-Soviet cooperation with Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade Nikolay Patolichev and Deputy Prime Minister Ivan Arkhipov, who is also cochairman of the Joint Commission on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, reports PTI.

Officials said that the discussions, which covered trade as well as cooperation in industrial and agricultural spheres were detailed and fruitful.

Dharia discussed with Patolichev trade prospects for 1979-80, guidelines for the 5 years 1981-85, and projections of trade for the period ending 1990. It was agreed that further detailed work would be undertaken during Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Ivan Grishin's visit to India in mid August.

In his meetings with Soviet functionaries, Dharia explored the possibilities of obtaining additional supplies of fertilisers, nonferrous metals, cement and other industrial raw materials and increasing exports of tobacco, shellac, cashews, footwear, leather products, dyestuffs and other items.

Dharia, who was accompanied to the talks, among others, by Ambassador I.K. Gujral, thanked the Soviet Government for facilitating the opening of a permanent Indian restaurant and a handicrafts emporium in Moscow.

Dharia, who came on July 30th for the opening of a month-long Indian national exhibition, visited the site of the fair and expressed satisfaction with arrangements made. Soviet and Indian pressmen were given a preview of the exhibition, the biggest undertaken by India abroad, which is to be inaugurated by Deputy Prime Minister Arkhipov.

Dharia, who will have more talks before he returns home on Wednesday night, was entertained at a luncheon by Patolichev. Gujaral later held a reception in his honour.

Ministers Satisfied With Talks

BK011309Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia and Soviet Foreign Trade Minister Patolichev expressed satisfaction on their talks aimed at raising economic relations between the two countries to a new, high level. They were speaking to Indian newsmen in Moscow.

Speaking at a reception given last night by Indian Ambassador Gujral, the two ministers said they considered exploring and identifying new possibilities created by the economic growth of the two countries.

Mr Dharia said a Soviet delegation headed by Deputy Foreign (?Trade) Minister Ivan Grishin will visit India this month to identify itemwise various fields where the two countries could increase trade and develop production cooperation.

PAKISTAN

IRAQI CONSULAR OFFICE ATTACKED IN KARACHI 2 AUGUST

BK0208311Y Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 2 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Two unknown persons, who looked Middle Eastern, opened fire at the Iraqi Consular Office in Karachi this morning.

According to official sources, police guards stationed at the consular office and Iraqi security guards immediately subdued the attackers. However, one attacker was killed in the exchange of gunfire. The second attacker was seriously wounded and quickly taken to a hospital.

The commissioner of the Karachi division and deputy inspector general of police immediately went to the Iraqi Consular Office. The police are investigating the incident to determine the aim of the attackers. The number of security guards at the consular office has been increased.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE LOAN TO PAKISTAN--Under an agreement signed in Islamabad today, Japan will provide loans to Pakistan amounting to $57 million to purchase goods and services. It follows Japan's commitment at a Pakistan-aid consortium meeting in Paris. Interest will be charged at the rate of 3 percent per annum, and the loan will be repayed in 30 years. [Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jul 78 BK]

JAPANESE LOAN TO BANGLADESH--Japan will give Bangladesh a commodity loan of over $80 million under an exchange of notes signed between the two countries in Dacca on 28 July. This is the largest Japanese commodity loan so far to Bangladesh. The loan will be available to finance imports of industrial raw materials, machinery and spare parts over a period of 10 years. [Text] [Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jul 78 BK]

SRI LANKA PATROL BOAT CONSTRUCTION--Colombo Dockyard Limited has undertaken the construction of a series of fast patrol craft for both the Sri Lanka Navy and the Sri Lanka Customs Department. The first patrol boat in the series for the Sri Lanka Customs Department has been completed. The construction of this craft has saved the country approximately 1.5 million rupees in foreign exchange. Colombo Dockyard Limited was established for the construction of steel craft to meet local as well as foreign requirements. [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Jul 78 BK]

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